GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2546
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2007
PATENT ON WHEAT
Reddy Shri Karunakara G.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is examining the issue of patent on wheat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when such examination is likely to be completed?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a): No, Sir. In accordance with Section 3 (j) of the Patents Act, 1970, plants and animals in whole or any part thereof are not patentable. However, varieties of wheat are protectable in the country under the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001 since wheat is one of the notified crop species under that Act.

(b) & (c): Do not arise.